



Board of Optometry
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Instructions for Obtaining Continuing Education Course Approval

Requests for approval of continuing education (CE) courses may be submitted on the form provided by the Board. As the form indicates, the Board requires the following information in order to process a course approval request:

- Course title
- Date(s) the course is scheduled to be offered
- Topical outline of the course subject matter
- Any announcements, notices or advertisements of the course
- Curriculum vitae of all instructors and lecturers involved

Requests for approval and the supplemental information should be submitted to the Board office at least 45 days prior to the first date the course will be offered. Requests will be reviewed by staff and forwarded to the CE Committee for final review. If necessary, Board staff will contact the requestor for additional information. Course approvals are good for 12 months or until the course is modified.

Continuing Education Requirements

Optometrists licensed to practice in California who have not obtained a therapeutic pharmaceutical agent (TPA) certificate are required to complete 40 hours of CE course work within the 24 months immediately preceding the expiration date of their license. TPA certified optometrists are required to complete 50 hours of CE, 35 of which must be on the diagnosis, treatment and management of ocular disease and allocated as follows:

- 12 hours on glaucoma
- 10 hours on ocular infections
- 5 hours on inflammation and topical steroids
- 6 hours on systemic medications
- 2 hours on the use of pain medications